

Message Text

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43

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCI-06 GAC-01 SCEM-02 AEC-11

RSR-01 /102 W

----- 064603

R 150935 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7539

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PARM, IAEA, BE, CA, NL

SUBJECT: ZANGGER COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: STATE 87994; VIENNA 3681

1. SUMMARY: GOB' S MAIN CONCERN IS GETTING AROUND PROBLEM OF FRENCH COOPERATION UNLESS EC WERE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF MEMBER COUNTRIES IN AGREEING TO GUIDELINES WITH FRENCH ACQUIESCENCE. OFFICIALS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT EVEN THIS PROCEDURE SINCE THEY HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE FRENCH WILL ACCEPT ZANGGER COMMITTEE GUIDELINES. WHILE PREFERRING SIMPLEST POSSIBLE TRIGGER LIST, GOB WOULD BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN RENEGOTIATION AND ENLARGEMENT OF LIST TO ACCOMMODATE USSR IF PERSUADED THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH FRENCH PROBLEM. END SUMMARY.

2. WE HAVE DISCUSSED BELGIAN POSITION ON ZANGGER COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHIEF OF FONMIN SCIENCE SERVICE BOUHA AND
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NUCLEAR AFFAIRS OFFICER HERPELS. THEY CONSIDER CENTRAL PROBLEM TO BE INCOMPATIBILITY OF EURATOM TREATY' S PROVISION FOR FREE MOVEMENT OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS BETWEEN EURATOM COUNTRIES WITH ZANGGER GUIDELINES ON EXPORTS OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS TO NON- NPT COUNTRIES, IF FRANCE DECLINES TO ACCEPT GUIDELINES (I. E., EXPORTS TO FRANCE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS WHICH, IF NOT FULFILLED, WOULD RESULT IN PREVENTING SALES TO FRANCE IN VIOLATION OF EURATOM TREATY). THEY SEE NO WAY OF GETTING AROUND THIS DILEMMA UNLESS FRANCE WERE TO ACQUIESCE IN EC NEGOTIATING ON BEHALF OF EURATOM COUNTRIES IN ZANGGER COMMITTEE. THEY DO NOT BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT FRANCE HAS ANY PARTICULAR INTEREST IN ADHERING TO GUIDELINES AND ARE THUS PESSIMISTIC THAT EC APPROACH WOULD WORK.

3. HERPELS SAID (CONTRARY TO DE LIEDEKERKE' S COMMENTS REPORTED VIENNA REFTEL) THAT, ALTHOUGH GOB PREFERS SIMPLIST AND SHORTEST LIST POSSIBLE, IT WOULD AGREE TO NEGOTIATE SOME ACCOMMODATION TO OBTAIN SOVIET PARTICIPATION, PROVIDED FRANCE ACCEPTED GUIDELINES. GOB IN FACT FAVORS BOTH SOVIET AND FRENCH COOPERATION, BOTH FOR POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL REASONS, BUT CANNOT ACCEPT DEROGATION OF EURATOM TREATY.

4. BELGIANS ASKED ADVICE OF EC LEGAL SERVICE AND HAVE RECEIVED NINE- PAGE MEMORANDUM SPELLING OUT IN DETAIL EURATOM TREATY- ZANGGER GUIDELINES INCONSISTENCY AND SUGGESTING THAT EC APPROACH OUTLINED ABOVE IS ONLY RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM. MEMORANDUM DOES NOT CONSTITUTE EC COMMISSION POSITION.
STRAUSZ- HUPE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BRUSSE02667
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730543/aaaajduz.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 87994, 73 VIENNA 3681
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <22-Oct-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980211
Subject: ZANGGER COMMITTEE MEETING
TAGS: PARM, BE, ZANGGER COMMITTEE
To: ACDA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005